



SWINGING INTO THE '60S

More trophies, more celebrations and a whole new galaxy of stars. Of course, success was never complete without the *Filmfare* trophy

'60

You wicked, wicked girl!

The decade kicked off with two memorable awards: Raj Kapoor's first (Best Actor for *Anari*) and Nutan's second (Best Actress for *Sujata*). Nutan's younger sister Tanuja, who was studying in Switzerland, flew in specially for the function.

Guru Dutt's immortal *Kaagaz Ke Phool* won two trophies—Best Cinematography (V K Murthy) and Best Art Direction (M R Achrekar). The statuettes were among the few flashes of success the movie enjoyed when it released. It failed miserably at the box office, sending Guru Dutt into a vortex of depression.

The highlight of the evening: Vyjayantimala created a stir by singing two songs—*Aa bhi jaa raat dhalne lagi*, specially written by Shailendra and composed by Shankar-Jaikishen, and *Bol re kathputli* from *Kathputli*. So much so that Dilip Kumar remarked, "You wicked, wicked girl—springing such a surprise on us. In fact, it was more than a surprise, it was a pleasant shock!"

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Mughal-e-Azam: Yes to film, No to director

The President of India, Dr Rajendra Prasad, was welcomed to the eighth *Filmfare* Awards by a glamorous bunch of actresses that included Sadhana and Asha Parekh. Music directors Shankar-Jaikishen coordinated a 60-piece orchestra on stage for the occasion.

It was a year of some surprises. *Mughal-e-Azam* won the Best Film Award but didn't fetch K Asif the Best Director trophy (it went to Bimal Roy

for *Parakh*). The film picked up only two more awards: Best Cinematography Award for R D Mathur, and Best Dialogue, shared by four writers—Amanullah Khan, Wajahat Mirza, Ehsaan Rizvi and Kamal Amrohi. Incidentally, Kamal Amrohi had just started shooting with wife Meena Kumari for his extravaganza *Pakeezah* (it released only in 1972).

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Ice cream and chandelier earrings

Ashok Kumar, who'd recently received the Padma Shri, was given a Special Award by *Filmfare* for outstanding contribution. Told about it, Dadamoni got so excited that he called for an ice cream. His explanation: "When you're heated up, ice cream is the handiest thing to restore you to normalcy."

Two other award winners who could have used a



V are in it together: Raj Kapoor and Vyjayantimala (1960)

bit of that ice cream were Vyjayantimala and Nirupa Roy, who found themselves on stage in identical pink saris and chandelier earrings!

Other moments: Mehmood took the stage for an uproarious comic interlude, Johnny Walker delighted the audience by mimicking a *madari*. Asha Parekh performed three dance numbers spread over three parts of the evening—a Rajasthani dance, a colourful *dhoban* dance and a classical number.

On the awards front, *Ganga Jumna* won three trophies—Best Actress for Vyjayantimala, Best Dialogue for Wajahat Mirza and Best Cinematography for V Babasaheb. Raj Kapoor won two awards, for Best Actor and Best Picture, for *Jis Desh Mein Ganga Behti Hai*.

However, the Best Director Award went to B R Chopra for his racy direction in the courtroom thriller *Kanoon*.



Helen sizzles, Meena Kumari recites

“Was it a good show?” *Filmfare* asked Ashok Kumar at the end of it all. “It was not a good show. It was a grand show,” he replied beaming.

To indulge in some name-dropping, among the guests this year were Dilip Kumar, Raj Kapoor, Rajendra Kumar, Shashi Kapoor, Vyjayantimala, Waheeda Rehman, Nutan, Sadhana, Simi Garewal, Saira Banu, Balraj Sahni, Rehman, Raaj Kumar,

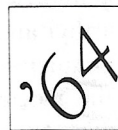
Dharmendra, Geeta Bali... you get the picture. Southern megastar Sivaji Ganesan also attended.

It was the year of *Saheb Bibi Aur Ghulam*, which won four awards: Best Film (Guru Dutt), Best Director (Abrar Alvi), Best Actress (Meena Kumari), and Best Cinematography (V K Murthy).

The Best Actor trophy went to Ashok Kumar for his 100th film *Rakhi* won him the Best Actor Award, while Shashikala took home her second Best Supporting Actress Award in a row, for *Gumrah* (the earlier one being for *Aarti*).

The performances: Helen dazzled in her first stage appearance. Johnny Walker did his inimitable take-off on a drunkard. Meena Kumari recited a popular poem—not hers, but one written by poet Faiz Ahmed Faiz. Ashok Kumar sang a few lines of his own songs.

And finally, Dilip Kumar congratulated the award winners and said there was no use wasting breath in disputing the fact that while the technique of film-making in India had advanced greatly, the content of our films had yet to improve. Sounds familiar, huh?



Jaya he!

She was described as ‘the up-and-coming dancer-actress’ in *Filmfare*, and she performed a Bharata Natyam dance on stage to much applause. The lady in question: Jayalalitha, then in the early stages of her career.

In another first, Sunil Dutt bagged a statuette for his fiery performance in *Mujhe Jeene Do*.

At the other end of the spectrum was Bimal Roy, who bagged the Best Film and the Best Direction Awards for his classic, *Bandini*, taking his total count to nine!

Departing from the usual practice of dignitaries presenting trophies, stars presented the awards to their colleagues this time. So Rajendra Kumar handed over the trophy to Best Actress Nutan, Meena Kumari to Best Actor Sunil Dutt, Guru Dutt to Best Director Bimal Roy and Dilip Kumar to Bimal Roy.



Smiles ahead: Shashikala, Ashok Kumar and Meena Kumari (1963)

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Veterans and newcomers

Eight finalists of the *Filmfare*-United Producers Talent Contest were presented to the audience. Among the discoveries were a certain Farida Jalal, Rajesh Khanna, Subhash Ghai and three-year-old Baby Sarika!

Meanwhile, Rajshri Films' runaway hit *Dosti*, featuring newcomers, bagged six awards—Best Film (Tarachand Barjatya), Best Story (Ban Bhatt), Best Dialogue (Govind Moonis), Best Music (Laxmikant-Pyarelal), Best Lyrics (Majrooh Sultanpuri) and Best Singer (Mohammed Rafi).

Others who shone were Dilip Kumar (Best Actor for *Leader*) and Vyjayantimala, who picked up her third Best Actress Award for *Sangam*. Sadhana sang *Raat ko baagh mein* from her forthcoming film *Anita*.

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Ek do teen char

Yash Chopra opened his *Filmfare* account with his path-breaking multi-starrer *Waqt*, which had the lethal combination of big stars, the lost-and-found formula, love, hate and melodrama.

Other luminaries were old hands at the game. Meena Kumari won her fourth Best Actress Award for *Kaajal*. Lata Mangeshkar picked up her third trophy for *Tumhi mere mandir* from *Khandan*. (Her earlier successes were *Aaja re* in *Madhumati* and *Kahin deep jale kahin dil* in *Bees Saal Baad*.)

Sunil Dutt's experimental *Yaadein*—in which he performed a solo act—didn't score but his role in *Khandan* did, getting him his second Best Actor trophy. While Chetan Anand won a Special Award for his war drama *Haqeeqat*.

Filmfare's dependable David skipped this one year as host, but stayed in the reckoning with a Special Award for old times' sake.

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Yours, mine and ours

Producer-director Ramanand Sagar took a long look at the flood-lit Shanmukhananda Hall and the glamorous audience and declared: "Like a Madras film, the *Filmfare* show overwhelms you with its sheer lavishness. Anyway, this function no longer belongs to *Filmfare*. It belongs to the entire film industry."

It was a memorable evening for many reasons.

● *Guide* swept the awards: Best Director for Vijay Anand (his first), Best Film and Best Actor for Dev Anand, Best Actress for Waheeda Rehman (her first), Best Dialogue for Vijay Anand, Best Story for R K Narayan and Best Cinematography for Fali Mistry. Whew!



Yours or mine? Waheeda Rehman and Meena Kumari (1967)



Winsome act: Simi Garewal and Manoj Kumar (1967)

- Who else but Mehmood could win the newly-instituted Best Comedian trophy? *Pyar Kiye Jaa* got it for him.
- Fresh young actress-dancer Hema Malini wowed 'em with two Bharata Natyam items.
- Rajesh Khanna and Sonia Sahni presented a skit.

- It was Nutan's turn to sing, with a melody from *Laat Saheb*.

- Meena Kumari sportingly attended the function despite a fracture on her left hand, complete with bandage and sling. She even went on stage to hand over the Best Actress trophy to Waheeda Rehman.

- Raj Kapoor made a family appearance with wife Krishna and sons Randhir and Rishi.

Now you know why Ramanand Sagar was overwhelmed.



Let's party!

Sunil Dutt set off a tradition by throwing an impromptu party for the winners of *Filmfare* Awards that year. The guests responded with gusto, we're told. There was plenty to celebrate.

Manoj Kumar won three awards for *Upkar*—for Direction, Story and Dialogue. He bent down to touch Raj Kapoor's feet when he collected his Best Director trophy.

For Best Actress Nutan (*Milan*), it was a doubly special day—June 4 was her birthday too.

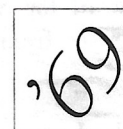
As Saira Banu handed over the Best Actor trophy to husband Dilip Kumar, David egged the thespian to kiss his wife, but alas, *Dilipsaab* didn't.



First-time winner: Shammi Kapoor (1969)

Sanjeev Kumar, who performed and attended a *Filmfare* function for the first time, said, "I hope to attend next year, not just to do an item but to get something too." He did exactly that the next year. (See below)

The Best Playback Singing awards were divided into male and female. Asha Bhosle bagged her first trophy for *Garibon ki suno* in *Dus Lakh* while Mahendra Kapoor won it for *Neele gagan ke tale* in *Humraaz*.



Honesty stays

As honest as it gets: When ace comedian I S Johar was called on stage to present an award, he complained that *Filmfare* had done him "unendurable justice" by never giving him an award though his family considered him the best

comedian in the world. And that we were adding insult to injury by asking him to present the trophy to a "totally unknown actor called Johnny Walker"!

Shammi Kapoor struck gold with the Best Actor trophy—his only one—for *Brahmachari*. He won the Best Supporting Actor trophy years later in 1982 for *Vidhaata* and finally, the Lifetime Achievement Award in 1994.



Pati, patni aur ivo: Dilip Kumar and Saira Banu (1968)

Waheeda Rehman returned to claim her second Best Actress trophy, for *Neel Kamal* and Simi Garewal did a repeat performance too, with her second Best Supporting Actress trophy for *Saathi*. The Best Supporting Actor trophy was taken home by Sanjeev Kumar for *Shikar*.

The Best Screenplay Award was instituted this year, with Nabendu Ghosh bagging it for his adaptation of Sarat Chandra's *Majhli Didi*.

And to top it all, there was the beautiful-as-a-dream Hema Malini performing a dramatic *Mohini Attam*.